

15 Struck by skids of falling electrical motors – Inspection #1164151

A **66 year old male** employee of a contractor was fatally injured when he was struck by a double stacked skid of residential HVAC motors. On the day of the incident, the victim was walking down a designated aisle way in the host employer's warehouse, to exit the building, when a double stacked skid of 140 air conditioner motors, weighing approximately 1,540 lbs., fell over striking the victim and crushing him. During the investigation at the host employer's warehouse, items were found to be over stocked, materials not properly secured, aisle ways blocked, and damage to the rack system such as broken or mangled rack legs, crushed cross braces, bent and broken shelving. The investigation revealed that collapsed or falling loads were a daily occurrence at the facility. None of these hazards were in the control of the contractor, but their employees were exposed daily to these hazards. Both the host and contract employers were cited as a result of the investigation.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

29 CFR 1910.176(b)	Material stored in tiers was not stacked, blocked, interlocked or limited in height so that it was stable and secure against sliding and collapse. In that material located in the vender warehouse was not secured and prevented from sliding or collapse while in storage in the following instances: a) An employee from a contracted company was walking down a main aisle way used for access and egress to the contractor's work location when a second level stacked skid from the floor stack area containing 140 11-pound HVAC motors collapsed striking and killing the employee. b) Throughout the vender warehouse that is used by employees and contains an aisle way that is used by contract employees, the pallets of material were found to be fallen over, collapsed, and leaning onto other material on the rack systems. These areas are used daily by employees and are constantly being restacked, stocked and product delivered to the production lines.
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Photo 1 of 1 – Trays partially filled with approximately 12 of the 140 residential HVAC motors that were packaged on the skid that fell over striking the victim.